



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

24 JULY 2019

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Anaheim – 147 Methamphetamine Laced Letters Smuggled into Jails

(U) A surge in drug smuggling and trafficking inside Orange County's jails has led the Sheriff's Department to crack down on inmate mail after methamphetamine-laced letters and other contraband were found being sent to the facilities. The Orange County Sheriff's Department stated that certain types of inmate mail will now be prohibited. Jailers did not specify what letters would be banned, but said the mailroom is a common avenue for inmates to receive narcotics and other contraband. So far this year, 147 greeting cards containing drugs, most laced with meth, have been found, authorities said. SOURCE: 23 July 2019, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Arizona – Drug Smuggler Attempts Border Crossing with Methamphetamine

(U) Yuma – Authorities say a Mexican man tried to smuggle methamphetamine over the border between Arizona and California while traveling with his pregnant wife and three children. US Border Patrol officials said in a news release yesterday that the 31-year-old Mexican national is in custody on controlled substance violations. His wife, also a Mexican citizen, has permanent residence in the US and was released along with their children. The incident happened Monday afternoon at an immigration checkpoint in Blythe, California.

SOURCE: 23 July 2019, [Associated Press](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) New York – White Supremacist Violence Responsible for Spike in US Domestic Terror

(U) New York City – An increasing number of arrests related to domestic terrorism is being fueled in part by white supremacy, FBI director Christopher Wray said during a Senate hearing on 23 July. Testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee, the director said his agency has already made nearly 100 domestic terrorism-related arrests in 2019, a figure already higher than that of the entirety of 2018. "A majority of the domestic terrorism cases we've investigated are motivated by some version of what you might call white supremacist violence," Director Wray said.

SOURCE: 24 July 2019, [Independent](#)

(U) Texas – El Paso Sheriff Department Finds Pipe Bomb during Drug Raid

(U) El Paso – El Paso County sheriff's narcotics investigators found a pipe bomb during a drug raid in San Elizario last week. The pipe bomb was found 15 July when narcotics investigators served a search warrant. Burt Allen Gidcumb, 57, was arrested on charge of possession of prohibited weapon for the pipe bomb found at his home, officials said. The El Paso police Bomb Squad responded to the scene and detonated the pipe bomb with "minimal impact."

SOURCE: 24 July 2019, [El Paso Times](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

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(U) Bulgaria – Bulgaria Suffers its Largest Data Breach Ever

(U) Sofia – Police investigating Bulgaria's largest-ever data breach have detained a manager of a cybersecurity company, raided its offices and seized computers on 24 July. The company, Tad Group, has become a focus of the investigation. Another of its employees, Kristian Boykov, is the only person so far charged with involvement in last month's cyber-attack on the country's tax agency, in which nearly every Bulgarian adult's financial records were compromised.

SOURCE: 24 July 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Germany – Blue-Chip Companies Target of Cyber Attacks

(U) Frankfurt – German blue-chip companies BASF, Siemens, Henkel (HNKG_p.DE) along with a host of others, said they had been victims of cyber-attacks today – confirming a German media report of the attack, which also said the likely culprit was a state-backed Chinese group. Public broadcaster ARD said the hackers used a type of malware called Winnti, which allows attackers to remotely access a victim's computer network. ARD said an analysis of the malware code showed which companies were targeted by a group likely working for the Chinese government.

SOURCE: 24 July 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Philippines – Zamboanga City Bomber Captured

(U) Pagadian City – Security forces, today, captured an Abu Sayyaf bomber thought to be behind a deadly attack in Zamboanga City in January 2015, and also linked by the military to an Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) suicide bombing in Lamitan City in July 2019. Army Captain Clint Antipala, a spokesman for the Philippine 1st Infantry Division, said soldiers and police commandos raided an Abu Sayyaf hideout in Zamboanga Sibugay's Naga town and captured Isnaji Hasim.

SOURCE: 24 July 2019, [The Mindanao Examiner](#)

(U) Thailand – Police Hunt Insurgents who Attacked Outpost

(U) Pattani – Police are hunting insurgents thought to be responsible for a pipe bomb and small-arms attack that killed four men at a security checkpoint in tambon Paka Harung on 23 July. Police Major General Piyawat Chalermisri, commander of the Pattani provincial police, said today investigators believed the 10 attackers were in hiding in the province.

SOURCE: 24 July 2019, [Bangkok Post](#)

(U) United Kingdom – Man Jailed 15 Years for Driverless Car Bomb Plot

(U) London – A man who plotted a terrorist attack involving the use of a bomb inside a remotely controlled vehicle has been jailed for 15 years. Counterterrorism police described Farhad Salah as posing a very high risk to public safety, with prosecutors saying he had hoped to harm others he considered to be infidels. The 24-year-old, described as being a supporter of ISIS, had been in the early stages of testing small improvised explosive devices when he was arrested.

SOURCE: 24 July 2019, [The Guardian](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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